

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 7-12, 14-17, 20-25 and 29-34 remain pending in this application. Applicant acknowledges that claims 1-3, 7-12, 14-17, 19-22 and 30-34 are allowed and claim 29 is allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 23 and 29 have been amended and claim 28 has been canceled. Insofar as the total number of pending claims has not increased, no additional fee is due.

In the specification, paragraphs [0032] and [0040] have been replaced by replacement paragraphs [0032] and [0040] to correct typographical errors in the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has rejected independent claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,264,786 to Cromett. Independent claim 23 has been amended to include the limitation of a layer of finish between the release compound and the layer of coating. Cromett in no way discloses or suggests a layer of finish as is now required by amended independent claim 23. Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 23 is not anticipated by Cromett and respectfully requests the removal of the rejection under § 102(e).

The Examiner rejected dependent claims 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,264,786 to Cromett in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,123,890 to Mazurek. Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 24 and 25, which depend from and include all of the limitations of amended independent claim 23, are not obvious over Cromett in view of Mazurek for the reasons discussed above. Applicant respectfully requests the removal of the rejection under § 103(a).

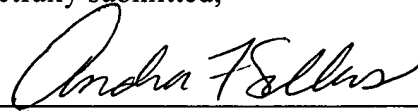
The Examiner objected to claim 29 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 29 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 28. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 29 is now in allowable form and respectfully requests the removal of the objection.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance and eventual issuance. Such action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments which need be addressed in order to obtain allowance, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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